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This is the story of two strangers...
Real Worlders visit **page 1B**



'I take no prisoners'
Page 12A

The big race
Former faculty member runs for governor **page 3A**

COLLEGE HEIGHTS HERALD

Western Kentucky University • Bowling Green, Kentucky

www.wkuherald.com

Student News. Faculty News. Alumni News. All News.

Students to vote for regent

Four students vie for board position in TopNet election

BY JESSICA VANWINKLE
Herald reporter

Tomorrow, students won't have an opinion at Western.

The Board of Regents will meet Friday without a student regent, leaving students without representation at the meeting.

If you vote:

- ◆ Students can vote for a student regent on TopNet from 12:01 a.m. Monday to 11:59 p.m. Tuesday.

The Student Government Association will hold a special election Monday and Tuesday on TopNet to elect the new student regent.

The SGA constitution states that when the president resigns or is impeached, the executive vice president assumes all responsibilities of the president, except student regent.

Student regent candidates are Elizabethtown sophomore Kendrick Bryan, Marion junior Jeanne Johnson, Owensboro graduate student Tim Gilbert and New York sophomore Theodore Harden.

Johnson, who is SGA president, said her position

SEE ELECTION, PAGE 7

Data delays Carter suit

Proceedings await analysis

BY CHRISTINA ALLEN
Herald reporter

Police are awaiting a final deciphering of black-box data from an accident that killed a Western student on April 2, 2006.

Allison "Ali" Marie Carter, a sophomore from Evansville, Ind., died after an automobile collision with Bowling Green Police Officer David Hall.

Carter's parents filed a complaint with the city police in Warren County Circuit Court.

The suit is pending, and the legal process can't proceed without a final deciphering of the evidence, said Todd Holder, Kentucky State Police public affairs officer.

Black boxes on vehicles save data every five seconds, Holder said.

SEE CARTER, PAGE 7



Sarah Dudik/Herald

Workers from Ernie Davis & Sons Mechanical Inc. prepare to exit a trench dug to place steam lines for Florence Schneider Hall. The infrastructure of the building is being updated to house the Kentucky Academy of Math and Science and will be completed in the fall.

Renovations planned for the completion of the building

- Schneider Hall will be used this fall to house students for the Kentucky Academy of Math and Science.
- The academy is a program designed to allow gifted high school juniors and seniors to take college classes to finish high school and get ahead with college credits.
- The following is a list of some of the renovations done on the building:**
- ◆ Additional bedroom space added
 - ◆ New roof added
 - ◆ New elevator added
 - ◆ New dividing walls added
- The following is in progress:**
- ◆ Building bathrooms
 - ◆ Installing air conditioning and heating
 - ◆ Replacing electrical and steam distribution
- The following will begin later:**
- ◆ Painting
 - ◆ Carpeting
- Source: Doug Ault, director of planning, design and construction.*

Trench gives some the 'runaround'

Renovation prepares dorm for academy

BY SUSIE LAUN
Herald reporter

Paths up the Hill are blocked as construction continues on Schneider Hall.

Students are finding alternative ways to get to their classes as they travel past the building, but construction shouldn't slow students down for long.

The sidewalk should be repaved by the first full week in February, said Doug Ault, director of planning, design and construction.

The building's infrastructure is being replaced, said John Osborne, associate vice president of campus services and facilities.

The trench around the building was created to replace the electrical and the steam distribution, Ault said.

Osborne said the trenching will fix these problems in the future.

The electrical distribution is a part of a renovation started in 1998 to redistribute electricity across campus, Ault said.

About one-third of campus is complete, he said.

Students are being affected by the construction surrounding Schneider.

"Sometimes, the machinery is in the way," said Maegan Webb, a sophomore from Hendersonville, Tenn.

Webb said she's also disturbed by construction early in the morning, when she's trying to sleep or study.

"I'm ready for them to get finished," she said.

Lexington junior Beth Berger said she lives off campus and hasn't been affected by the construction.

Berger said she goes straight to Cherry Hall and is rarely near Schneider.

Because the building is so old, many things have to be replaced before Kentucky Academy of Math and Science students move in for the fall 2007 semester.

The academy will allow gifted Kentucky high school juniors and seniors to earn college credits while completing high school.

Ault said the roof was replaced, an addition was built

SEE TRENCH, PAGE 7



Kellie Manier/Herald

Radcliff freshman Kenya Adams works at the Domino's Pizza located at 2201 Stonehenge Ave., Apt. A, the location that makes deliveries to campus. Domino's is the only place that accepts Big Red and Dining Dollars off-campus. Bowling Green freshman Chris Costa has delivered pizzas for the company for five months. He said it's nice to work there because tips are good when students are typically spending their parents' money, rather than their own.

Plan for Dollars still stalled

Big Red Dollars go off campus next fall

BY KRISTINA YAGER
Herald reporter

Students might be swiping their Big Red Cards at their favorite restaurants and businesses.

But not yet.

The anticipated use of Big Red Dollars at off-campus businesses this spring has been postponed.

The technology for the card readers isn't developed yet, Auxiliary Services Director Gary Meszaros said.

The new projected date for the software completion is May 2007, so the program implementation has been pushed back to fall 2007, he said.

The auxiliary services at Western is contracting with the New York-based company, The CBORD Group Inc., to supply

the software used to scan ID cards off-campus, according to the company's Web site.

CBORD is the world's largest supplier of food service software, according to the site.

The ID Center will issue an additional number to all ID cards when the program is established, ID Center Manager Sherry Blanton said.

The number will allow students to use their cards at local businesses like a debit card, she said.

The ID Center will reprint and reissue the ID cards with the number when the program begins in fall 2007, Blanton said.

Blanton said she's not sure of the ID replacement cost because the proposal hasn't been finished.

The new software will charge businesses involved a fee for access to Western's account.

SEE DOLLARS, PAGE 7

Using Big Red Dollars:

- \$20** Minimum amount of Big Red Dollars that can be purchased with a credit or debit card
- 16** Different ways to use dollars on campus including vending machines, the billings office and N-Style salon.
- 50** cent discount for using Big Red Dollars at Fresh Food Company
- 2** Weeks after school starts you can charge Big Red Dollars to your account
- 1** Number of off-campus places where Big Red Dollars can be used

Today
Go online www.wkuherald.com for a virtual tour of the SAE house.



Next Tuesday
Coverage of the decisions made at Friday's Board of Regents meeting.

2 DAY

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9 with no repeats.

	4		5	7		3	
	5			2		8	
7							4
9	6		2		3		5 8
3							6
4	8		9		5		1 2
2							9
	1			7			4
	7		3		1		6

su | do | ku Solution, tips and computer program at www.sudoku.com
© Puzzles by Pappocom

WHAT'S GOING ON

- ◆ One Campus-One Community-One Book kick off, 2 p.m., today, Helm-Cravens Library
- ◆ KY Partnership Annual Banquet, 6 p.m., Saturday, Ag Expo Center
- ◆ Southern Kentucky Ranch Horse Show, 8 a.m., Saturday, Ag Expo
- ◆ Concert: The French Connection, 7:30 p.m., Saturday, fine arts center recital hall
- ◆ John Deere Days, 6 p.m., Sunday, Ag Expo Center

a thousand words

B e y o n d t h e H i l l



Having finished his first semester at Western, Jeff Clagg, a freshman from Vienna, Va., drove his heavily loaded Honda CRV through the gently winding roads of Kentucky and West Virginia, back home to the “high-strung” lifestyle of Washington, D.C. The car had seen a lot of miles and a lot of new ground this semester, from football games at Eastern Kentucky University, to fall break with friends in Tennessee. As its wheels turned through the mountains, strip-mined and disfigured, the CRV passed a hill separated from the highway by

barbed wire fences and a flowing creek. The hill resembled Mount Calvary and the three crosses present at Christ’s crucifixion. “It reminds me of the Bible Belt; the farms, the country, the religion,” Clagg said. Kentucky has many differences from Clagg’s home up north. “The people are friendlier and more willing to help,” Clagg said. “When I’m here, I feel free.”

Evan Sisley is a freshman from Alexandria, Va.

► Crime reports

Reports

- ◆Lauren Britt, Bates-Runner Hall, reported a theft on the seventh level of parking structure 1 on Jan. 23 when she discovered her parking permit was missing from her 1996 Geo Tracker. The value of the theft was \$85.
- ◆Devin Thornton, Pearce-Ford Tower, reported a burglary in the second degree on Jan. 23 when he discovered his laptop computer

missing from his dorm room. The value of the theft was \$500.

- ◆Ronnie Poynter, Glasgow, reported a theft on Jan. 23 when his parking permit was missing from his red 1999 Ford Ranger. The value of the theft was \$85.
- ◆Debbie Lamastus, Helm-Cravens Library Information and Processing Center, reported criminal mischief in the third degree on Jan. 23 on College Heights Boulevard when she discovered a

broken window in her office. The value of the damage was \$50.

Arrests

- ◆Noel D. Castillo, Church Street, was arrested on charges of alcohol intoxication in a public place on Jan. 24 on 13th Avenue and Center Street. He was released from Warren County Regional Jail on Jan. 24 on time served.
- ◆Tony D. Donigan, Louisville,

was arrested on charges of alcohol intoxication in a public place on Jan. 24 in the McCormack Hall lobby. He was released from Warren County jail on Jan. 24 on time served.

- ◆William H. Cotto, Park Street, was arrested on charges of alcohol intoxication in a public place on 13th and Center streets on Jan. 24. He was released from Warren County Jail on Jan. 24 on a court order.

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Bowling Green

House speaker running for governor

BY ALEX FONTANA
Herald reporter

A Bowling Green state representative announced his candidacy for governor yesterday morning at the Warren County courthouse.

House Speaker Jody Richards, D-Bowling Green, said he'll run for the state's top executive spot. His running mate is John Y. Brown III, the son of former Gov. John Y. Brown Jr. Richards said education will be a priority for him if he becomes

Candidates for Ky. governor

- ◆ Steve Beshear
- ◆ Ernie Fletcher
- ◆ Gatewood Galbraith
- ◆ Billy Harper
- ◆ Steve Henry
- ◆ Otis Hensley
- ◆ Jonathan Miller
- ◆ Anne Northup
- ◆ Jody Richards

governor. Richards has a long history with Western as a former journalism faculty member and former Herald adviser. "My love and devotion for Western has never waned," Richards said. The speaker said that if elected he'd continue working with Western to get more projects and funding to enhance the university. Richards said he'd work with President Gary Ransdell to enhance campus improvements

and continue funding for the Kentucky Academy of Math and Science, a program in development for gifted high-school students. Ransdell declined to comment about the governor's race. Richards has served in the state House of Representatives since 1976, and he's been speaker since 1995, the longest-running career as House speaker in Kentucky history. He also owns Superior Books in Bowling Green. Richards' older brother also has ties to Western. Jim Richards worked for Western for 27 years, serving



Jody Richards

as head men's basketball coach, director of alumni affairs and athletic director, among other positions. He is now retired. The speaker's brother said Jody Richards is loyal to the Western and Bowling Green community, knowledgeable about state government — and a good guy. "He better be a real good guy because I whipped his head every morning when we woke up trying to make him a better person," Jim said. Brown said his running mate is qualified to be governor and is "the only candidate who has the capacity to be a

truly great governor." Brown served as Kentucky's secretary of state from 1996 until 2004. Western graduate and former Lt. Gov. Steve Henry has also filed for the office. Henry is a member of Western's Hall of Distinguished Alumni. Other Democratic candidates include former Lt. Gov. Steve Beshear, state Treasurer Jonathan Miller, Harlan demolition contractor Otis Hensley and Lexington lawyer Gatewood Galbraith. Republican candidates include Gov. Ernie Fletcher, former U.S. Rep. Anne Northup and Paducah businessman Billy Harper.

Reach Alex Fontana
at news@wkuherald.com.

News brief

Lecturer to speak on student motivation

Robert Brooks will speak on Western's campus at 7 p.m. Feb. 27 in Van Meter Hall. Brooks is the author of "The Self-Esteem Teacher," and has served as a consultant to Sesame Street Parents magazine. He received a gubernatorial award for his work with the Governor's Alliance Against Drugs. His lecture is entitled, "The Power of Mindsets: Nurturing Motivation and Resilience in Students." He'll address topics such as resilience in children and adolescents, dealing effectively with stress and balancing demands of home and workplace. The lecture is free.

— Christina Allen

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 <p>Bacardi</p> <p>Rum 750 ml \$11.99</p>	 <p>Life BEER</p> <p>18 pk 12 oz. cans or bottles \$10.99</p>	 <p>Jim Beam</p> <p>750 ml \$10.99</p>	 <p>Captain Morgan's</p> <p>Spiced Rum 750 ml \$12.99</p>
 <p>All Flavors</p> <p>Burnetts Vodka 750 ml \$5.99</p>	 <p>Coors</p> <p>18 pk 12 oz. cans or bottles \$10.99</p>	 <p>Coors LIGHT</p> <p>18 pk 12 oz. cans or bottles \$10.99</p>	 <p>BUSCH</p> <p>Busch or Busch Light 12 pack \$6.79</p>
 <p>Budweiser</p> <p>12 pk cans or bottles \$7.99</p>	 <p>E & J Brandy</p> <p>750 ml \$9.99</p>	 <p>Seagram's</p> <p>Seven 750 ml \$9.99</p>	 <p>JACK DANIEL'S</p> <p>Whiskey 750 ml \$18.99</p>

GO HILLTOPPERS

The Creed

“Congress shall make no law ...
abridging the freedom of speech,
or of the press ...”

— First Amendment, U.S. Constitution

OPINION

College Heights Herald • Western Kentucky University • Thursday, January 25, 2007 • Page 4A

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EDITORIAL

Old must change with new on the Hill

THE ISSUE: A report shows most newly hired staff serve new departments and facilities.

OUR VIEW: Failing to update longstanding institutions at Western could have a damaging effect on a growing university.

Last semester, the Herald reported that enrollment at Western was growing at an unexpected rate. The university had broken three records: first-year student enrollment, black student enrollment and all-time enrollment. Western administrators want the number of students to reach 20,000 in five years.

A September editorial emphasized that more students would need more services. Complementary growth was cited as a necessary measure so a large number of students would not be clamoring for the attention of one staff member.

This fear is fast becoming a reality. A preliminary report by Staff Regent Tamela Smith shows that the number of staff positions has increased, but the new hires mostly are in new departments. Older departments often are left with the same number of employees to service a growing student body.

There is little doubt that recent expansions at Western are good for the campus and its community, but administrators cannot afford to focus on the latest developments at the expense of long-standing departments.

The expected increase in students probably will include freshmen from distant parts of the country and different cultural backgrounds. These students will need more guidance and assistance than those from the surrounding areas from which Western is used to attracting students, like Kentucky and Tennessee.

Attempting to serve these students with the same resources would prove troublesome. Current staffers would be overburdened with demand and

deadlines, damaging the quality of their work and frustrating students in need of help.

Students and faculty often take for granted staffers who have been serving Western for years on end. When these staffers eventually retire, which might happen sooner rather than later if they become bogged down with massive workloads, those hired to replace them will need to be quickly trained so things can continue running efficiently.

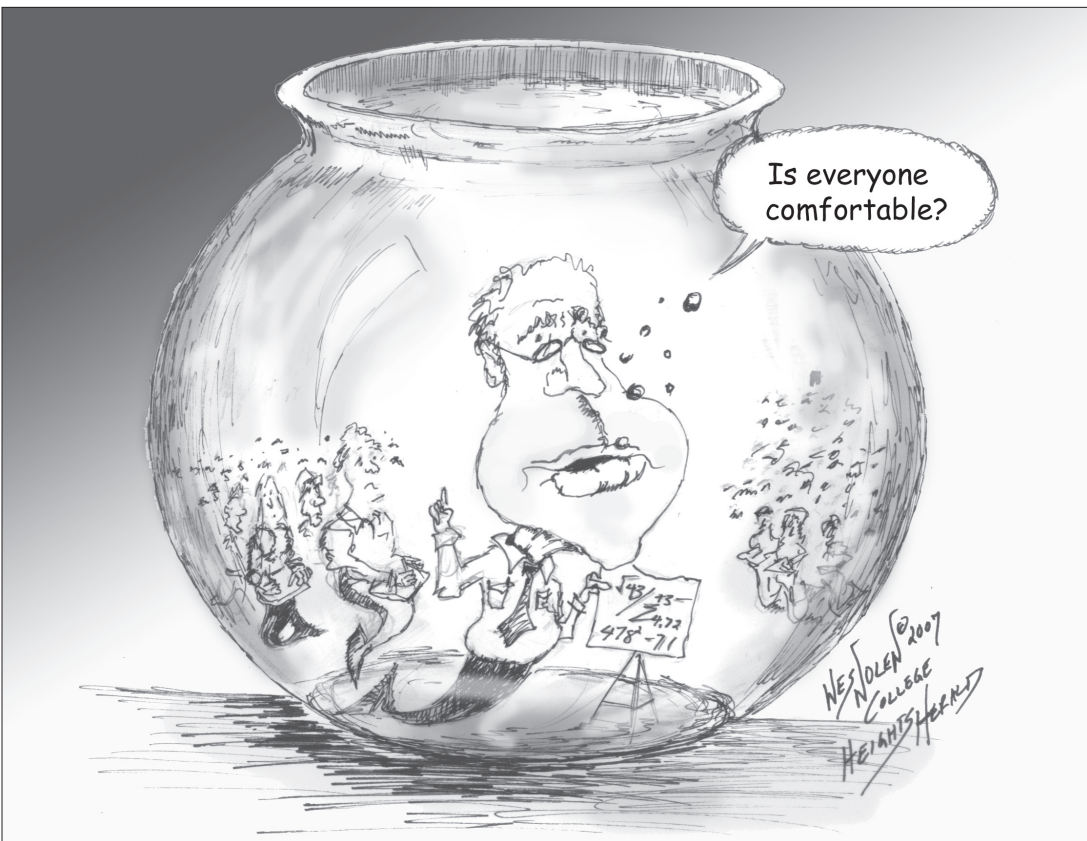
Similar problems can be found with campus technology. Elizabeth Paris, the staff representative on the budget council, told the Herald that staffers have been requesting a fund to replace older computers for about three years.

Sudden fortune often leads to short-term thinking with long-term consequences, and the problems described by Smith and Paris point to areas where Western administrators need to pump up planning.

Anyone with the slightest concern for students' welfare knows that nothing should be added to campus without careful consideration given to how efficiently it will serve students and what manpower is needed to properly maintain it.

But concerns cannot stop there. Essential existing departments, such as human resources, will need to be updated through added staff and improved technology to accommodate expansions.

New employees and technology will come at a cost, one that may result in more tuition hikes over the next several years. But administrators need to consider such costs alongside those for new buildings and departments. Doing so would



prevent wasteful spending on projects that cannot be reinforced with manpower.

It's easy to point to developing projects and say that the Western community is growing. It's harder to balance those hopes with the reality of keeping that growth maintained. Western admin-

istrators should face that challenge if the best interests of students are to be realized.

This editorial represents the majority view of the Herald's 10-member board of student editors.

COMMENTARY

Reality TV has real problems



by Stephanie Keene

Lately, it seems like you can't turn on your television without seeing some new reality show. You can't turn to MTV without having to endure another rerun marathon of "Next" or "The Real World." VH1 is constantly bombarding its viewers with rerun episodes of its newest reality shows, "I Love New York" and "Ego Trip's: The White Rapper Show."

Though entertaining, have we thought of the consequences these shows may have?

Most reality TV shows are an embarrassment to our society. They not only embarrass the people involved in creating the show, but also those who watch it.

Reality TV has gotten out of hand. People are degrading themselves for a few dollars and a couple of minutes of fame. Do you honestly think the contestants on "Fear Factor" really want to eat goat testicles or lie in a pile of snakes and spiders?

Unless they're completely insane, I'm

guessing the answer is no. TV viewers have become so desensitized by the ridiculousness of reality TV, that nowadays people feel they have to be extremely outrageous to get viewers' attention.

No one remembers the quiet girls on "The Real World" who didn't drink and party every night. We remember the drunken party girls who make out with everybody.

People are embarrassing themselves and their families in hopes of gaining fame and fortune. Yet, in the end, all they do is wind up on a VH1 show recalling their most embarrassing moments.

Reality TV is also hurting society. Shows often create false perceptions of what other racial groups may be like. On "The Real World," there always seems to be the angry black man, the weak and insecure white woman or the horny white "fraternity boy" who only cares about "hooking up."

Flavor Flav created a modern-day minstrel show with his two seasons of "Flavor of Love." Eating fried chicken all the time or pouring alcohol on the floor to remember someone are not things that all black people do, but the show created a perception that that's what all blacks are like.

People without much experience with other cultures see things like this and believe a whole group is like that.

Even more so, reality TV shows encourage sexism in our society. Women fighting

for men on "Next" or "ElimiDate" portray themselves as weak and dependent on males. They have to over-sexualize themselves to gain the guys' attention and win. This is not a positive thing for young boys and girls to watch, no less grow up thinking of for gender roles.

Why can't New York be happy being single? She got rejected by Flavor Flav twice. Is it necessary that she get her own show so she can finally get a man? Being on three reality TV shows looking for love portrays her as being weak and dependent, like she has to have a man to make her feel like her life has been fulfilled. Women should not have to feel as if they need a man to be happy.

Even though there are so many negative aspects of reality TV, people will continue to support it. People will go on the shows because it seems like an easy way to gain fame and fortune, and people will continue to watch them because it makes for fun entertainment. Most don't think of the consequences of reality TV, but in the long run, it just may be the downfall of our society.

Stephanie Keene is a junior news/editorial journalism major from Radcliff. She is a reporter at the Herald.

The opinions expressed in this commentary do not reflect the opinions of the Herald or the university.

These are the Herald's views on the good, the bad and the slightly unattractive.

TOPS & Bottoms



A round of applause for the University Senate lending a hand to retirees by passing a resolution stating that the state budget surplus should aid the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System.



Bravo to everyone who participated in winter term classes. The numbers went up this year, feedback was very positive and no one forgot their mittens.



Let's hear it for higher hopes that the state budget may provide money to Western for last year's vetoed projects. And to think, we were going to sell off the Centennial Mall statue.



A pox on the accident-prone Pearce-Ford Tower elevator for getting stuck. Again. The guy at the top of the shaft pulling the string needs to start working out.

COLLEGE HEIGHTS HERALD

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The Herald encourages readers to write letters and commentaries on topics of public interest. **Here are a few guidelines:**

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6. The Herald reserves the right to edit all letters for style, grammar, length and clarity. The Herald DOES NOT PRINT LIBELOUS LETTERS OR COMMENTARIES.

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The opinions expressed in this newspaper DO NOT reflect those of Western's administration or of its employees.

Administration

Ransdell fills Martin’s seat on Federal Reserve Bank board

By Katie Brandenburg
Herald reporter

President Gary Ransdell has pulled a bank job. The Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis named Ransdell to the board of its Louisville branch. He’s taking the seat of Cornelius Martin, the former Board of Regents chairman who was killed in a highway accident June 3. “I’m very honored, and it’s a challenging opportunity,” Ransdell said. “To fill Cornelius’ position just has great personal meaning to me.” Ransdell will finish the last year of Martin’s three-year term, said Maria Hampton, vice president and senior branch executive of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Louisville branch.

Ransdell will report to the board on the general state of the economy in the area surrounding Western, she said. The board gives the St. Louis branch of the Federal Reserve Bank feedback on the economy in areas such as business decisions, community growth and economic development. That information eventually becomes part of the Beige Book, a book the Federal Reserve System Board of Governors uses to decide whether the decisions they make about infla-



Gary Ransdell



Cornelius Martin

tion levels and interest rates are working, Hampton said. “Down here in the trenches, we’re not policy-makers like they are in Washington,” board member Gordon Guess said. The Louisville branch of the bank serves southern Indiana and central and western Kentucky. John L. Huber, chairman of the Louisville branch board of directors, said Ransdell’s back-

ground in education will help in his new position. “We like to have a diversity of backgrounds on the board,” he said. Hampton said the board met Ransdell when Martin convinced them to host a meeting in Bowling Green. “The board was very interested in maintaining a Bowling Green relationship, and was very impressed by the whole higher education industry in Kentucky,” Hampton said. Guess said he had only met Ransdell once, but thought he would do a good job. “He’s known by his reputation,” Guess said.

Reach Katie Brandenburg at news@wkuherald.com.

Regents

Board to discuss tuition, new degrees

By Katie Brandenburg
Herald reporter

No more drama. That’s what many members of the Board of Regents are expecting when they convene at 9 a.m. tomorrow for their quarterly meeting. Regents expect to take steps on a retirement debate that has been vexing Western employees and to vote on several issues that won’t get the Hill riled up. The board will vote on several new degree programs, including a Master of Arts in applied economics, a Bachelor of Science in geographic information science and a Bachelor’s of Science in meteorology. They’ll also approve tuition rates for the 2007-08 school year.

Faculty Regent Robert Dietle said there would be little controversy over the rates. “I think (the Council on Post-Secondary Education) has made it very clear what the limits are,” Dietle said. Regents will also hear reports on several high-profile issues, including a resolution to problems between the Kentucky Teachers’ Retirement System and the Optional Retirement Program. “Basically, it’s going to be a long day,” Board Chairman Earl Fischer said. “There’s some very important things on there, but there’s not any big surprises.” Regents will spend a lot of time hearing reports on issues

such as bond ratings and Western’s media and marketing, Fischer said. Staff Regent Tamela Smith said she’s looking forward to hearing President Gary Ransdell’s report on a solution to problems with KTRS and ORP. Funding of the ORP has been inconsistent, Smith said. A portion of the money set aside for ORP participants goes

to support KTRS, the Herald previously reported. Dietle said he hopes the board will support the idea of putting surplus money from the state budget to supplement ORP, but the issue ultimately has to be resolved through legislation. Smith said the issue affects staff members who chose ORP. “This is a resolution that we have been looking for,” Smith said. Reach Katie Brandenburg at news@wkuherald.com.

“Basically, it’s going to be a long day. There’s some very important things on there, but there’s not any big surprises.”

Robert Earl Fischer
Board of Regents Chairman

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Speaker of the Student Senate
745-5130

CARTER

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

“Some are simple, and will tell you, ‘This is how fast he was going.’ But some are more complicated, and give you nothing but raw data,” he said.

Officials are waiting for the temperature to change so they can get a drag factor reading on the street where the accident occurred.

The road temperature would have to be closer to what it was at the time of the

accident to get the reading, Holder said.

Bowling Green Police currently can’t tell what the temperature was on the night of the accident.

The Carters’ attorney, H. Philip Grossman, said the investigation process has to be complete before the lawsuit can progress.

“The family has already filed a suit,” he said, “but it’s premature to decide what type of legal action

they can take.” Grossman said the family is anxious to receive the black box data.

“The family wishes it was done some time ago,” he said. “They’ve made that clear before.”

Grossman said it’s unusual for a police report to take so long to be processed.

Reach Christina Allen at news@wkuherald.com.



Ali Carter

DOLLARS

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

The fee amount hasn’t been determined.

The University of Kentucky is using software that CBORD has already created for its Plus Account program. The program is similar to what Western hopes to start.

The program allows students to dine off campus using their Plus Account dollars, said Chip Carter, UK dining and Plus Accounts office supervisor.

Carter said the program has had positive feedback from students and businesses.

In Bowling Green, Domino’s Pizza is the only off-campus business that accepts Big Red Dollars.

The company uses dining services’ card readers, as opposed to CBORD’s program, Meszaros said.

The arrangement between Domino’s and Western’s dining services has been beneficial, Domino’s Marketing Director Chad Day said.

“Right off the bat, there was significant sales growth which has continued throughout the past three years,” Day said.

No other businesses have signed on for the program because proposals can’t be formed until the technology is

available, Meszaros said.

Meszaros said he hopes the community and Western can benefit from the expanded use of Big Red Dollars when the program is fully developed.

Louisville freshman Amber Yocum said the program would be a great addition to Western’s current meal plan.

“This program will encourage students to try different kinds of food, not just what is offered on campus,” Yocum said.

She said the program has the potential to increase Western’s enrollment.

Reach Kristina Yager at news@wkuherald.com.

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JANUARY 26TH ONLY IN THEATERS

TRENCH

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

new elevator added and the air conditioning and heating completely redone.

The total cost of the renovations is \$10.7 million, Ault said.

Most of the big ticket items are finished, he said.

Ault said renovations are on schedule and are to be completed by July 2007, despite a setback due to rain.

“I’m still confident that we’ll be able to finish on schedule,” he said.

The building will include a central common area that will house a study area and computer

lab, he said.

There will also be administrative offices on the first floor of the dorm.

Academy participants will be separated by gender.

The rooms are suites, and suite mates will share a bathroom, Ault said.

Reach Susie Laun at news@wkuherald.com.

ELECTION

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

gives her an advantage because of her good relationships with administrators.

She said she’d focus on university bonding and campus construction.

Gilbert said he’d focus on graduate studies and university expansion.

“The university needs to grow,” he said. “I would make sure there’s a plan in place.”

He said he’d work to give out-of-state and international students a greater voice.

Harden would focus on the new Internet policies and parking.

Bryan said he plans to focus on the plus/minus grading scale and the Honors College if elected.

Earl Fischer, chair of the Board of Regents, said the board

would like to have a student regent as soon as possible.

President Gary Ransdell said it’s unfortunate there won’t be a student vote, but it won’t cause a problem.

“Business marches on,” Ransdell said.

Herald reporter Christina Allen contributed to this story.

Reach the reporters at news@wkuherald.com.

► News brief

Students study abroad

Western students and faculty members learned about urban planning, design and leadership issues in Western Europe during the winter term.

Four faculty members and 13 students studied abroad,

focusing on security challenges, transportation and tourist issues.

The instructors were Geography Instructor Debbie Kreitzer; Agriculture Department Head Jack Rudolph; David Keeling, geography and geology department head; and

D.J. Urquhart, a Bowling Green Community College adjunct English instructor.

The students represented many majors, such as photojournalism, communication, geography and agriculture.

— Alex Fontana

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Police

Reactions mixed to security cameras

BY CHRISTINA ALLEN
Herald reporter

Some students say the addition of 24 security cameras to Western's campus makes them feel safer, but there are some who still have concerns about privacy.

Western has added security cameras to various campus locations, including Cherry Hall and Guthrie Tower.

All the cameras record a visual feed that is stored in a central area network in Media and Technology Hall.

Capt. Mike Dowell, public information officer for campus police, said the cameras are a great addition.

"Cameras on campus are a terrific tool that will help us

develop a video patrol that will go along with our foot, car and bike patrol," Dowell said.

He said the cameras will provide parking lots with surveillance, which could help deter robberies and intervene in other crimes.

Dowell said the cameras are all in public areas and are therefore not an invasion of students' privacy.

But Assistant History Professor Andrew McMichael said he's concerned about how the cameras will affect students' privacy.

McMichael said he trusts the campus police department, but there's always potential for invasion of privacy regarding security cameras.

But McMichael said the cameras are less likely to invade students' privacy because their existence is public knowledge.

He thinks cameras can help make Western safer when used correctly.

Bowling Green junior Tasha Glass said the cameras help her feel safer on campus because she thinks the cameras will deter would-be criminals.

"I like it," Glass said. "It's good, especially for us girls when we're going back home at night," she said. "Nobody wants to be mugged, or raped, or robbed or killed."

Hopkinsville freshman Melissa Smith also said she's relieved that the cameras are on campus.

"I don't want to get



Daniel Houghton/Herald

Garrett junior Ben Redmon is reflected in a security camera that is attached to the Helm-Cravens Library. It is one of 24 new security cameras added to Western's campus by campus police. "Anytime on campus that we improve student safety, that's always a good thing," he said. "Student safety should always be a priority to the administration."

mugged," she said. "But if I do get mugged, I want there to be some retribution involved. I mean, I'd hate for them to get away just because no one saw it happen."

Reach Christina Allen at news@wkuherald.com.

Administration

New scholarship may be created

BY NINA BOSKEN
Herald reporter

Post-college debt might be relieved for some incoming freshmen next fall.

Western's student financial assistance might offer a new need-based scholarship program for incoming freshmen.

The program, "Top It Off," will be presented to the Board of Regents Friday, said Bob Edwards, assistant vice president of University Relations.

To be eligible, a student must be a Kentucky resident, meet university admission requirements and have a family contribution of \$3,000 or less, said Cindy Burnette, director of Student Financial Assistance.

President Gary Ransdell said he'd be glad to be able to help some students out with "Top It Off."

"This is an important program," he said. "Students at this family income level need help."

Currently, low-income students pay for school through federal and state funding. "Top It Off" will be funded by Western.

Scholarships given by Western are currently merit-based, Burnette said. This scholarship will be based on student needs.

This fall will begin the pilot

year for this program, Burnette said.

"I think it's a wonderful opportunity," she said. "It shows Western is ready to serve those in need."

Dean Kahler, director of the admissions office, said he hopes the program will help recruit more students to Western.

"I would hope that this would provide access to our university for students that might otherwise thought they couldn't attend," he said.

The University of Louisville will adopt a similar program, "Cardinal Covenant," in the fall.

Mike Abboud, associate director of financial aid at U of L, said helping students get a higher degree is the first step, and sending the students on the path towards graduation is the focus.

"It's opening more doors for people to get that higher degree," he said.

U of L's program will cover the costs of college for students in families living at or below 150 percent of the poverty line. That includes 22.6 percent of Kentucky families.

Students who graduate within five years do so debt free.

"This is an important program. Students at this family income level need help."

— Gary Ransdell
President

Reach Nina Bosken at news@wkuherald.com.

► News brief

Book event to begin today at the library

Western will kick off its fourth annual One Campus-One Community-One Book event today at 2 p.m.

The featured book this year is "The Memory Keeper's Daughter," written by Kentucky author Kim Edwards.

The event will take place in Helm-Cravens Library, Room 100.

There will be 150 free copies of the book handed out on a first

come, first serve basis.

Jayne Pelaski, manager of community outreach for Western libraries, said the event is part of an effort to "cultivate reading and discussion by bringing the Western community and the whole community together."

The program is sponsored by Western libraries, the Bowling Green Public Library, and Barnes & Noble Booksellers.

— Jennifer Dooper

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CATCH & RELEASE (PG-13)
100, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30

DREAMGIRLS (PG-13)
12:50, 3:30, 6:50, 9:40

FREEDOM WRITERS (PG-13)
12:20, 3:40, 7:10, 9:50

HAPPILY N'EVER AFTER (PG)
12:30, 3:00, 6:50, 9:20

EPIC MOVIE (PG-13)
110, 4:30, 7:20, 9:30

WE ARE MARSHALL (PG)
12:20, 3:10, 6:20, 9:10

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM (PG)
12:40, 120, 3:20, 4:00, 6:30, 7:10, 9:00, 10:00

SMOKIN' ACES (R)
1:30, 4:10, 7:40, 10:10

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BABEL (R)
6:30, 9:20

ARTHUR AND THE INVISIBLES (PG)
1:00, 3:40, 6:20

STOMP THE YARD (PG-13)
1:20, 1:50, 4:00, 4:50, 6:50, 7:40, 9:30, 10:10

BLOOD AND CHOCOLATE (PG-13)
1:40, 4:10, 7:30, 10:00


THE DEPARTED (R)
2:10, 5:30, 8:50

ROCKY BALBOA (PG)
2:00, 4:40, 7:10, 9:50

PURSUIT OF HAPPYNESS (PG-13)
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Campus government

SGA gains new chief of staff

By JESSICA VANWINKLE
Herald reporter

The new semester for the Student Government Association means a new president and, now, a new chief of staff.

Emily Lovan, SGA's former chief of staff, resigned.

Ashley Gore, a sophomore from Dayton, Ohio, will be the new chief of staff after approval from the senate.

Lovan said she resigned because her course load doesn't work with the SGA schedule.

As an education major, Lovan teaches during the day, which conflicts with meetings she would need to attend, Lovan said.

Lovan said getting a degree and being a student is her first priority.

Lovan was the second most experienced person in SGA,

SGA President Jeanne Johnson said.

"It's sad to see such an experienced person go," Johnson said.

Losing Lovan means losing experience, but SGA members said they aren't worried.

Office Associate Kathleen Hennessey said the executive council is experienced, and this year's projects have already begun.

"I feel that it's going to be a good semester," Hennessey said. "We're all excited about the senate meeting."

Gore will add to this experience because of her involvement in Panhellenic Council and Phi Mu sorority, Hennessey said.

Lovan said she'll miss SGA, even though something had to give in her schedule.

Gore will be a good chief of staff, she said.

"I have 100 percent confidence in Ashley Gore," Johnson said.

Gore will bring new ideas and will work closely with senators and communicate well with the executive cabinet, Lovan said.

Gore said she really liked being involved as a senator and is excited about becoming chief of staff.

"It's a great opportunity to be involved with SGA," Gore said.

Reach Jessica VanWinkle at news@wkuherald.com.

Academics

FN grade saves Western \$60,000

By NINA BOSKEN
Herald reporter

For professors, the end of the semester sometimes means giving out a number of failing grades.

Some of those grades go to students who tried their best but didn't grasp the material. But other F's go to students who didn't participate or show up.

A distinction between those students saved Western thousands of dollars last semester.

There were 1,349 FN grades, a grade designated failure, and 3,925 regular failing grades last fall, Registrar Freida Eggleton said.

The new grade has saved Western \$60,000 so far, said Cindy Burnette, director of student financial assistance.

The new grade is meant to keep track of students who receive financial aid.

If they receive all FN grades,

the university owes the state money, which means the student owes Western money, Burnette said.

"The main part is that we return the funds on behalf of the student," she said.

Professors are required to give the grade to students who failed to participate after 60 percent of the course was completed (Oct. 30), said an e-mail sent from Eggleton.

The FN counts the same as a regular F when calculating grade point average.

"The use of the FN is significant for whoever reads the transcript in the future,

because now there is a distinction between someone who fails because of performance and someone who fails because they ceased to attend the class," Eggleton said.

Retta Poe, associate dean of the college of education and behavioral science, said she likes how Western identifies those who don't participate.

"It's one thing to make an F and try hard, and it's another to make an F and not attend class or take tests or do any work," she said.

Reach Nina Bosken at news@wkuherald.com.

"It's one thing to make an F and try hard, and it's another to make an F and not attend class or take tests or do any work."

— Retta Poe
Associate dean

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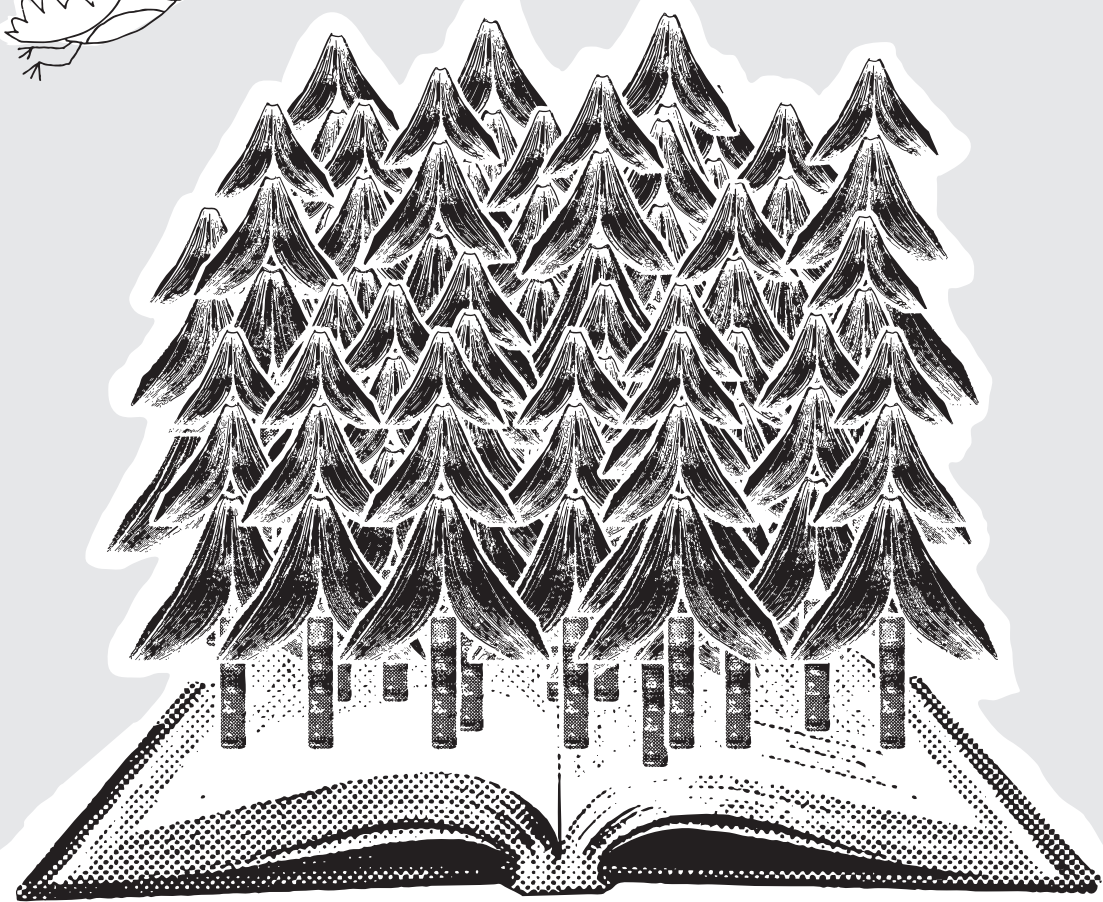
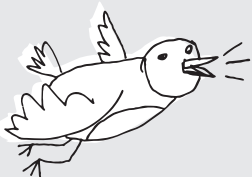
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Scoreboard goes down at Smith Stadium

By Will Perkins
Herald reporter

The most costly construction project in progress at Western sits on the edge of Avenue of Champions and looks like an excavation site.

The completion of the \$38 million Smith Stadium renovation is projected for September 2008, and the project has been progressing through four phases since September 2005.

With waterproofing, cement repair and utilities complete, the renovation is currently in Phase III, the west grandstand addition.

Construction on the west grandstand began on Dec. 18 when Able Construction Company Inc. received the \$22.3 million bid. The old practice field, the site of the new grandstand, has already been cleared.

"It's coming along pretty well, given the weather conditions," said Doug Ault, director of planning, design and construction. "We've been working

on the groundwork, and it's been wet."

Despite fighting the elements, construction is right on schedule, said Craig Biggs, associate director of athletics.

Building the stands from the ground up, Able Construction is currently pouring the foundation.

Aside from the current fenced-in muddy field, other parts of the stadium are also being altered.

The scoreboard is in the process of being taken down. The stadium lights will follow in about a week to 10 days. A new scoreboard and lights will be in place before next fall.

Even though it will have begun a few months earlier, the completion of Phase III will coincide with the completion of Phase IV.

Bids for Phase IV, the east grandstand renovation, were originally scheduled to be decided this month, but have been postponed for another month due to engineering details.

While not fully up to cosmetic standards, Smith Stadium will still be playable for the 2007 football season.

The west grandstand will be under construction until 2008, but most of the work being done to the east side is interior with offices and other rooms.

"It'll be a construction site, technically," Athletics Director Wood Selig said. "But my hunch is all of the construction will be in areas that will minimally affect the spectators and the game."

The construction of the west grandstand will be progressing at such a fast pace, patrons will be able to watch it evolve from week to week, Selig said.

The fences around the construction that currently obstruct the field to the west will be pushed back before next fall.

"We're doing pretty well and expect to finish on time," Biggs said.

Reach Will Perkins
at sports@wkuherald.com.



Jake Stevens/Herald
Julia Meredith, a freshman from Racine, Wis., finishes her leg in the 200-medley relay as Kristin Hopkins, a senior captain from Richmond, dives into the pool. Both the women's and men's teams won the swim meet against Wright State.

SENIORS

Continued from 12A

The Lady Toppers look to equal or better the six individual wins they posted in their last meet.

The Toppers are 23-1 all-time against Louisville, while the Lady Toppers are 2-1 and are looking to avenge last year's loss to the Cardinals.

"It's an in-state rival and they're very good," Marchionda said. "It's gonna be a fun weekend."

Kentucky swept the Cardinals in Lexington on Saturday on the Wildcats' senior day.

The Toppers are ranked seventh in this week's collegeswimming.com mid-major poll. The

Lady Toppers are ranked 10th. The Cardinals are unranked in both nonmid-major polls on collegeswimming.com.

Freshman Sean Penhale broke the school record for the 1,000-meter freestyle Saturday against Wright State. Penhale said he doesn't believe Louisville will bring a distance swimmer, and he is looking for his second straight meet with a record-setting performance.

"I'll be going for the 500-free pool record," Panhale said.

Dating back to last season, the Toppers have a 16-dual-meet winning streak. Simmons said he believes the Cardinals

will be coming to Western looking for revenge.

"It's going to be a real big meet," Simmons said. "It's a good little rivalry between us."

However, when Simmons gets out of the pool following his last event in the Powell Natatorium, he'll be walking away with more than a swimming time.

"I've gotten a bunch of friends out of the team,"

Simmons said. "I've been able to continue to swim in a great environment."

Reach Andrew Robinson
at sports@wkuherald.com.

KELLY

Continued from 12A

She leads the team in rebounding (nine per game), field goal percentage (62 percent), free throw percentage (77 percent) and field goals and free throws made and attempted.

Junior guard Charlotte Marshall said that Kelly's blend of offense and defense helps the team in many facets of the game.

"It helps tremendously to have a go-to player like her," she said. "But to have an All-American like her, her presence makes her so good. I love having her on the team and as a teammate."

This season, Kelly has had

a knack for playing at a higher level in big games.

In the Lady Toppers' four games against ranked opponents this season, Kelly has averaged 17 points and nine rebounds. In a Dec. 27 game at No.19 Middle Tennessee State, Kelly finished with 20 points and 16 rebounds in a 76-62 loss.

Kelly's importance to the team was never more evident this season than in a Jan. 18 contest at Arkansas-Little Rock. Kelly scored 33 of the the Lady Toppers' 47 points, including the game-winning lay-up with 12 seconds remaining, in a 47-45 win.

"That was a game where we weren't shooting the ball well," Kelly said. "I saw that I needed to step up and help my team win and get it done."

Another aspect of Kelly's game that has stayed consistent is her efficiency at the free-throw line. Kelly averages 11 free throw attempts per game. In the team's five losses, she averages only seven attempts.

"I really have (seen her mature)," Cowles said. "Not just in her game, but in her ownership of the team and being such a good leader."

Before the season, Kelly was also named to the Naismith, Wade and Wooden Award watch lists. She remains a candidate for all three of the awards, which are given to the top player in women's college basketball. The rest of the country is noticing as well.

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Point

Continued from 12A

Brazelton is also shooting 46 percent from three-point range, which is eighth-best in the conference.

Junior guard Ty Rogers said Brazelton brings a long list of strengths to the team.

“He’s a competitor, plain and simple,” Rogers said. “Obviously he’s brought a lot of athleticism to this team, but something people may not see is his leadership ability. He goes out every time and gives everything he’s got. He leaves it all on the floor and that makes the game a lot of fun for the rest of us.”

This pervasive mentality has not gone unnoticed by Coach Darrin Horn.

Horn said he was pleased with how Brazelton helped fill the gap during the recent three-game stretch in which the team’s leading scorer, junior forward

Courtney Lee, sat out with a foot injury.

“His leadership and his aggressiveness are exactly the kinds of things we’ve been looking for out of him,” he said. “We haven’t been at full strength for a while, but Tyrone has definitely established himself both on offense as well as on defense.”

Lee’s absence, and key injuries to Rogers (ankle), freshman center Jeremy Evans (ankles), and sophomore forward Matt Maresca (shoulder) left Brazelton with a chance to test his mettle.

Brazelton doesn’t waste opportunities either.

In the three games Lee sat out, wins at Florida International and against Louisiana-Lafayette, and a loss at Arkansas-Little Rock, Brazelton shot 70 percent from three-point range and 54 percent overall while averaging 22 points and 30 minutes a game.

In the flow of the team’s fast-paced style that brought him to the Hill from Missouri State-West Plains, Brazelton showed

he can be at his best when times are tough.

The spotlight, however, is nothing new to Brazelton.

As a National Junior College Athletic Association first-team All-America selection and the NJCAA Region 16 Player of the Year in 2005-06, Brazelton led Missouri State-West Plains with 18.3 points per game and 158 assists.

His purpose here at Western does not begin and end with basketball.

Dreams of playing after college are what drives him while in Topper red, but ambitions of being a teacher of the game he loves are what led him to pursue a degree in sociology.

“It is a dream of mine to play at the next level,” he said. “I will do everything I can in my time here to make that dream come true. But I just want to stay involved with the game, coaching or playing.”

Reach Ed Lukins
at sports@wkuherald.com.



Shannon L. Zirkle/ Herald

Tyrone Brazelton, a junior from Park Forest, Ill., collected 17 points as the leading scorer in Sunday’s win over New Orleans. As a National Junior College Athletic Association first-team All-America selection and the NJCAA Region 16 Player of the Year in 2005-06, Brazelton led Missouri State-West Plains with 18.3 points per game and 158 assists.

Conduct

Continued from 12A

Part of the presentation involved the student athletes getting out of their seats and interacting on the basketball court.

“She was very energetic, very passionate,” senior women’s golfer Alex Gennicks said. “She had a lot of positive energy and a very solid speech.”

Even though Hand projected optimism and hope, Gennicks said she didn’t think the speech will change much.

“Most people have a certain mindset about alcohol and will still do what they want, regardless,” Gennicks said. “It will take an event to make them change. It won’t take a speech.”

Freshman goalkeeper Pat Rickman said the speech was very informative and, in a way, caught him off guard with some of the statistics.

The national statistic that

stood out the most to Rickman was that about half a million students have been injured in alcohol-related incidents.

“For a majority of the people there, it really gave us something to think about,” Rickman said. “It’ll make us think twice about going out at night.”

— Pat Rickman
Freshman goalkeeper

Reach Will Perkins
at sports@wkuherald.com.

Sports briefs

Soccer awards

Western’s men’s and women’s soccer teams have been granted the Team Academic Award by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America.

To be eligible for the award, teams must achieve a composite grade point average of 3.0 or better.

Several other soccer players have won awards. Junior Meredith Goodson was named to ESPN The Magazine’s All-District first-team and was a third-team Academic All-American.

Junior Chris Davies was also named to ESPN The Magazine’s Academic All-District first-team. He and senior Daniel Payne were named to the Missouri Valley Conference first-team Scholar-Athlete Team.

“We take a lot of pride in our activities off the field as well as on,” Lady Topper coach Jason Neidell said. “We constantly remind them that they’re here to get an education.”

Softball awards

Two softball players were

named to the preseason All-Sun Belt Conference team.

Sophomore pitcher Ryan Rogge from Orange Park, Fla., and Louisville senior outfielder Alana Towns were two of the 11 players chosen.

Towns, one of two seniors on the team, holds the school record for triples in a season with five. In 2005, she was named to the Sun Belt Conference All-Tournament team. Rogge had a 5-7 record last year and pitched the third no-hitter in Western history.

— Chris Acree

Fred Meador

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Athletes get ‘Hand’ in conduct

BY WILL PERKINS
Herald reporter

NCAA public speaker Gail Hand met with Western student athletes in Diddle Arena Tuesday evening, giving her speech “Taming the Brew” in three separate sessions.

Student athletes were divided into sessions of men, women and the football team.

Hand’s program covers topics such as social pressures and health risks, as well as helping students gain perspective about drinking to relieve stress and finding a sense of humor during tough times, according to her Web site.

Pam Herriford, associate director of athletics, said each session lasted 40 minutes and was based on a Powerpoint presentation.

As well as adhering to the slideshow, Hand made the experience interactive, Herriford said.

“(Hand) is the type of person who will ask a question and expect responses,” Herriford said.

SEE CONDUCT, PAGE 11A



15-6
(7-2 SBC East)



10-10
(5-3 SBC West)

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Greg Barnette/Herald

Junior forward Crystal Kelly fights past New Orleans junior forward Andrea Williams during Western’s 76-52 win on Saturday. Kelly ranks second in the nation in scoring with an average of 23.7 points per game.

Can’t miss Kelly

All-American is ‘go-to player’

BY DAVID HARTEN
Herald reporter

Death, taxes and a full stat sheet from Crystal Kelly are three things that are certain in life.

Kelly’s career averages of 19 points and nine rebounds have led the team in both of her two full seasons.

She has shown her vitality again this season, ranking second in the nation in scoring at 23.7 per game through last night’s contest. She trails only Western Michigan’s Carrie Moore, who averages 25.5 points per game.

“I think we had an idea that she was All-American material,” Coach Mary Taylor

Cowles said. “But I think she’s still improving and I don’t think we’ve seen her best. I think we still haven’t seen the complete Crystal Kelly.”

A Louisville native, the 2004 Kentucky Miss Basketball earned Sun Belt Freshman of the Year honors and a spot on the All-Sun Belt first team her first season with Western.

Kelly followed that season up with 20 point, eight rebound averages as a sophomore and has been the catalyst for the Lady Toppers this season.

SEE KELLY, PAGE 10A

Point guard brings drive to team

BY ED LUKINS
Herald reporter

Tyrone Brazelton, the Toppers’ 5-foot-11, 170-pound floor general, is not one to waste.

Whether it was honed on the playgrounds of Chicago or born out of his innate desire to win, resilience is a characteristic the junior point guard wasted no time demonstrating once he got to the Hill.

“Tough,” he said, when asked to describe himself as a player.

His mindset when he steps on the court is just as self-assured.

“Winning, and I have no friends,” he said. “I take no prisoners.”

Brazelton has started every game this season for the Toppers, who are 15-6 and stand atop the East Division of the Sun Belt Conference with a record of 7-2.

He is second on the team in scoring (12.4 points per game), points scored (260), minutes played (24.8 per game) and leads the team with 84 assists. His four assists per game ranks third in the conference, while his 1.33 assist/turnover ratio is good for seventh in the Sun Belt.

SEE POINT, PAGE 11A

Seniors dive into final home meet

BY ANDREW ROBINSON
Herald reporter

When senior Guy Simmons and 10 other seniors walk into the Bill Powell Natatorium for the last home match at 1 p.m. Saturday, they’ll be holding a special place with Coach Bruce Marchionda.

The meet will also mean something for Simmons.

“It’s my last dual meet that my friends can come watch,” Simmons said. “My family can come down, too.”

Marchionda recruited this class in his first year on the staff, and they are the first class he has seen go all the way through the program.

“It makes it a little bit special to go through the four years with them,” Marchionda said.

The Toppers (7-0) and Lady Toppers (6-1) host in-state foe Louisville Saturday. Both Western teams are coming off a sweep of Wright State Saturday.

SEE SENIORS, PAGE 10A

Brown’s free throws overcome fouls in Lady Tops’ win

BY DAVID HARTEN
Herald reporter

For the Lady Toppers, a risk equaled a reward last night.

Despite playing the entire second half with four fouls, sophomore guard Brienne Brown made two free throws in the final seconds of the game to seal the Lady Toppers’ 64-59 victory over Arkansas State last night in Jonesboro, Ark.

“We played with some urgency,” Coach Mary Taylor Cowles said. “It carried over from the 5, 7-2 Sun Belt East Division) Arkansas-Little Rock game. I was very pleased with the way we executed our game plan.”

— Mary Taylor Cowles
Coach

The Lady Toppers held an 11-point lead with 8:51 left in the first half, but the Lady Indians were able to slim it to 30-25 by halftime.

Despite also playing with four fouls in the second half, junior forward Crystal Kelly finished with 26 points. Sophomore forward Dominique Duck scored 17 points in the victory.

“As a team, we played great,” Kelly said. “(Arkansas State) would be trying to double- and triple-team me and the team would be there to help out. Dominique stepped up, and it was a great team effort.”

The game was close throughout, with the lead changing hands six times.

The Lady Toppers were able to hustle the victory out thanks to a Brown steal that lead to a Duck layup and a 59-56 lead with two minutes remaining.

A minute later, senior guard Tiffany Zaragoza rebounded a missed free throw by Kelly and kept the ball in Western’s favor. Zaragoza passed it off to Brown, who was fouled and sealed the win with the two free throws.

Western will next travel to Denver for a showdown at 5 p.m. on Saturday.

The Lady Pioneers are undefeated at home, and hold an 11-7 overall record with a 6-3 record in the Sun Belt West Division.

Reach David Harten at sports@wkuherald.com.



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Notable

•The Ransdells’ Labradors have brains about the size of an orange, according to the dogs’ veterinarian.

diversions

College Heights Herald • Western Kentucky University • Thursday, January 25, 2007 • Page 1B

Contact:

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Assistant photo editor Trevor Frey:
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Dana Rieber/Herald

Owensboro junior Nathan Smeathers (bottom left) and Clay Harned, a Western alumnus from Lebanon Junction, toast with Randy Barry, a cast member from MTV’s “The Real World: San Diego” at the Brewing Company while Andrea Hughs, a Henderson County resident, Allison Davenport, a senior from Lebanon, Tenn., and Meredith Sharp, a senior from Fairview, Tenn., mingle in the background.

REAL WORLD

BOWLING GREEN

Two formers Real Worlders stretch reality show fame with campus tours

By MICHAEL HALL
Herald reporter

The thick, smoky air of The Brewing Company pulsed with excitement Tuesday night. Bartenders served free alcoholic drinks in anticipation of the arrival of Bowling Green’s latest celebrity visitors.

Arriving a fashionable hour and 45 minutes late, two cast members from MTV’s “The Real World,” Randy Barry from “The Real World: San Diego” and Syrus Yarbrough from “The Real World: Boston,” breezed in at about 12:30 a.m. with an entourage of screeching fans.

The two “Real World” veterans spent their time in the VIP lounge and sipped casually on vodka sodas while chatting with admirers and bar-hoppers.

Though such camaraderie seemed typical in a college bar, for these guys, it was just another day at work.

“For me, it’s just part of the job,” 27-year-old Barry said.

The two seemed to hit it off with fans right away

earlier that day at Western Place Apartments. Barry and Yarbrough visited the complex to promote Place Properties, the company that owns it.

“These guys are really cool,” said Sara Stephens, business manger of Western Place. “They’re extremely approachable and are just here to hang out.”

Usually appearing in college towns, Yarbrough and Barry have traveled with other cast members on tour contracts since the end of their shows.

“We’ve done a lot of promotional tours for a lot of companies,” Barry explained, after taking a break from an intense foosball tournament at the Western Place clubhouse.

Their Place Properties tour has about four more stops to make.

In spite of constant travel, both seemed happy with roaming careers.

“We don’t really get to see much of each other outside of

SEE REAL, PAGE 3B



Randy Barry

Age: 27
Hometown: Providence, R.I.
Year, city he was on show: 2004, San Diego
Famous for: Industrial Art



Syrus Yarbrough

Age: 35
Hometown: Santa Monica, Calif.
Year, city he was on show: 1997, Boston
Famous for: Clothing line for celebrities

Use college perks while you can



UNPROTECTED TEXT

Joey Leslie

I’m not a fan of hindsight. It never helps you until you’ve already screwed up. It lends itself to know-it-alls who want to question your actions.

And because of it, I often find myself the perpetrator of comical events that spawn the phrase, “What were you thinking, anyway?”

My usual response is, “It seemed right at the time.” But that’s the thing about hindsight. It never helps you when you need it.

Once, I kicked in my door after I locked myself out. In hindsight, I realized I should’ve checked my pocket for my house key which I had the whole time.

Once, on a very cold night, I left a party and walked 12 blocks in the wrong direction. In hindsight, I realize I probably should’ve just crashed on the couch like my friends suggested.

The beat goes on. But the worst thing about hindsight is the way it steals the attention from the king of all forms of sight: X-ray vision’s hotter, older brother, foresight.

It was at Puerto’s one night when I realized that if I could harness the power of foresight, I’d be unstoppable.

You never know when genius will strike.

I decided to run now with the column I was planning on being my farewell in May. It was to be the typical “these are the things I’ll miss about my life at Western” hoodie-doo. But, that would be the miserable voice of hindsight whining in the days prior to graduation.

Instead of passively utilizing the privileges I’ve gained in my four years at Western, I’m going to roll around in them until it gets boring. I’m going to use the network I’ve developed to find an awesome job near the coast.

I’m going to get all the free drinks I can at my favorite bars, free dessert at all the restaurants where my friends serve and discounts on clothes at all my favorite stores.

I’m going to utilize shortcuts to all my destinations even when I’m not late.

I’m going to enjoy the things that have been four years in the making so that, in May, I have no waste of clout to regret. I advise you to do the same.

Because once you relocate to a new, exciting city, the journey back to VIP will start at who.R.U.

You won’t find me sitting in my cap and oversized gown pining away for all the things I’ll miss.

I’ve developed this thing that even the Bionic Man would be envious of, and it’s better than 20/20.

Joey Leslie is a senior news/editorial journalism major from Pikeville. He can be reached at features@wkuherald.com.

Ransdell, master of Spirit and Topper

Popular pets help image of president, other public figures

By COREY PAUL
Herald reporter

Lots of Ransdell feet have trotted on the Hill in the last decade.

Students still at Western may have had class with sons Matthew, who graduated last year, and Patrick, who graduated in 2002.

Some may have even attended a dinner with President Gary Ransdell and his wife Julie.

But few students have an intimate relationship with two other treasured members of the Ransdell family.

They’re Topper, 7, and Spirit, 2, and they’re labradors. Labradors are intelligent, but their brains are about the size of a large orange, said Dr. Jerry Smith, Topper and Spirit’s veterinarian. Labradors can’t talk; so aside

from their names, Topper and Spirit have few means to honor the university that pays their master, which thus, indirectly funds their Kibble supply.

But to Ransdell, the dogs are an expression of his commitment to Western and an important public relations tool.

“Our entire family centers around WKU, including our dogs,” Ransdell said.

Ransdell talks about Topper and Spirit in some speeches, and they’re emphatically mentioned in Ransdell’s biography on Western’s Web site.

Administrators humanize themselves by talking about their pets to their audience, which makes them seem accessible, said Ken Payne, an assistant professor of public relations.

The technique has worked

for others, including U.S. presidents.

Richard Nixon’s “Checkers Speech,” delivered at the Republican National Convention in 1952, was one of his most famous.

Then-Sen. Nixon defended himself against accusations of accepting illegal campaign contributions. He admitted accepting just one contribution — his cocker spaniel, Checkers. America apparently approved, as Nixon won the vice presidential nomination.

President George W. Bush’s dogs, Barney and Miss Beazely, have their own Web site on whitehouse.gov.

They made their way into politics, too.

Last October, The Washington Post’s Bob

SEE MASTER, PAGE 2B

Sparks fly



Dana Rieber/Herald

Making a routine repair, Steven Stewart, 27, of Longwood, Fla., welds from the bed of a dump truck as the sun sets over Park Street. Stewart was en route to Missouri to provide assistance in the aftermath of an ice storm along with two other members of BLG Disaster Relief Services. They stopped in Bowling Green to visit their boss’ relative while waiting for the ground to thaw. BLG started out by providing relief along the banks of Louisiana in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, where members experienced the worst sights they had ever seen.

“The work is hard, it’s long hours,” he said. “But you kind of just take it with a grain of salt and push through.”

Western students train for wilderness rescue

By **Will Cravens**
Herald reporter

Frankfort junior Molly McKee tested her rescue skills Jan. 18 during a mock logging accident in the woods at Lost River Cave.

“On a hill off the trail, four people were laying under a tree that had fallen on them,” she said. “One guy was bleeding so I put on gloves and stabilized his head in case there was a spinal injury. I was part of the first team on the scene. I knew it was fake, but it was totally an adrenaline rush.”

She was one of 16 students enrolled in a Wilderness First Responder course that Western offered as part of the university’s Division of Extended Learning and Outreach.

The course was taught by Matt May, a firefighter from Bloomington, Ind., and a Stonehearth Open Learning Opportunities instructor.

SOLO is a school dedicated to teaching wilderness and emergency medicine courses. It is staffed by instructors who are healthcare providers on mountain rescue teams, fire departments and ski patrols, according to www.soloschools.com.

Recreation Professor Steve Spencer and Assistant Recreation Professor Bruce Larson also helped teach the class.

The course requires the completion of 80 hours over about nine days, giving students the knowledge needed to deal with crises in remote settings, Spencer said.

The curriculum emphasizes assessing critical situations and using every resource to provide adequate care until a

patient can be transported to a medical facility.

“They learn how to provide emergency care in the backcountry,” Spencer said.

Students learned how to apply the Patient Assessment System, which covers how to assess injuries, including those to the head and spine, how to check vital signs and how to recognize heat-related illnesses and hypothermia, McKee said.

The course focused on care in wilderness settings, so understanding and assessing the environment for potential difficulties in providing care was especially stressed.

“I had an amazing time,” McKee said. “I’ve never learned so much in one class in such a short amount of time.”

The mock rescue mission at Lost River Cave was one of many practical exams and scenarios designed to provide hands-on experience to supplement the lecture part of the course, Spencer said.

“It puts them in a situation where they have to perform,” Spencer said.

Students who complete the course receive a SOLO Wilderness First Responder card and an American Heart Association Adult Heartsaver CPR card.

However, not everyone passes. The course requires 100 percent participation for certification. Students must complete all aspects of the course to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to provide professional care, Spencer said.

Anyone can take the course and there are no prerequisites or previous training required. It would be ideal for those interested in the recreation field and outdoor activities,

Wilderness rescue skills

- ◆ Patient assessment
- ◆ Equipment improvisation
- ◆ Backcountry medicine
- ◆ CPR training

Issues covered by course

- ◆ Medicolegal concerns
- ◆ Bloodborne pathogens
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- ◆ Heat injuries/hypothermia

Students who complete the course receive

- ◆ SOLO Wilderness First Responder Card
- ◆ American Heart Association Heartsaver CPR Card

Source: www.soloschools.com

Spencer said.

Louisville senior Jennifer Leitner said it’s a great course for recreation majors.

“Being in the wilderness already, they would be able to take care of a situation with their friends if something happened,” Leitner said.

The course was offered as an elective for the recreation administration program for the second consecutive winter term. The department plans on offering it again next winter, Spencer said.

*Reach Will Cravens
at features@wkuherald.com.*



Sarah Dudik/Herald

Julie Ransdell, wife of President Gary Ransdell, watches TV with her dogs: Topper, an 8-year-old black lab, and Spirit, a 2-year-old yellow lab. “Gary and I, we’re both dog people,” Ransdell said. The Ransdells have always had dogs, most of which have been named after mascots.

MASTER

Continued from 1B

Woodward quoted Bush on “60 Minutes” as saying “I will not withdraw [from Iraq] even if Laura and Barney are the only ones supporting me,” to key Republicans.

Ransdell’s dogs usually just come up in speeches when he is introducing himself, such as the MASTER Plan convocation in August.

Payne said another effective public relations tool Ransdell uses is visually representing his commitment to Western by wearing his Western lapel pin or Western colors.

The Ransdells visually represent their passion for pups, too.

Several pieces of dog art decorate the Ransdells’ home.

A black lab illustration is centered in the “Welcome” sign on a column of the Ransdells’ home.

Topper’s work, ravaged tennis balls, sit on the driveway and the steps.

Julie and friend Ann Allen walk the dogs at 6:30 weekday mornings during the winter and at 6:00 a.m. in the summer. They’ve kept it up for eight years, in the course of which Julie sprained her ankle twice.

Topper has arthritis, so now she usually walks only on the weekends. Gary Ransdell walks on the weekends, too.

Sometimes the dogs mingle with students on the way to class. Julie said she knows some of the regular passers-by’s names by the end of each semester.

Monday, Julie and Allen walked a three-mile route around campus and up and down the stairs in front of the fine arts center. Matthew Ransdell’s Rhodesian Ridgeback, Tsavo, who’s staying with the Ransdells, walked with Spirit.

Topper and Spirit aren’t the first of the Ransdells’ pets named after Gary Ransdell’s

places of employment. Their cats are named after the mascots of Clemson University and Southern Methodist University.

But Topper and Spirit are the only Ransdell pets named after Western.

Despite the honor, the dogs aren’t always well behaved. They splash in the fountain in the Ransdells’ front yard. They jump on the couch. Topper barks at the mailman.

Ransdell said he plays the role of disciplinarian of the dogs, and Julie usually feeds them.

Julie agreed the dogs shed a human light on Ransdell and offered insight into the mute dogs’ perspectives.

“The dogs are far less impressed with his title than other people,” she said.

*Reach Corey Paul
at features@wkuherald.com.*

“The dogs are far less impressed with his (Ransdell’s) title than other people.”

— Julie Ransdell
Dog owner



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Katie McCollum/Herald



Every tale has a twist; every life has a passion. What's your story?

Filmmaker's goals coming into focus

BY HEATHER RYAN
Herald reporter

Living one's dream is something many on the Hill hope to accomplish one day. For Bloomfield junior Austin Blair, that day is today.

Blair has wanted to be a filmmaker ever since he used his mom's home camcorder to make skateboarding movies when he was 8 years old.

"Austin could take a handi-cam and make anything look good," said Roy Lee Wigginton, Blair's high school friend.

Through friends and sheer luck, Blair has been able to climb the ladder in film production.

When he was in high school, his friend dated the daughter of Craig Sterns, a production designer. Sterns showed Blair what Hollywood business was like.

"He opened me up to that world," Blair said. "From that moment on, I wanted to make a film career and move to L.A."

His senior year he worked for the local television station, PLG-TV, and got a job as a personal assistant on his first film, "St. Joseph's Triumph of Faith," a documentary by John Coulter.

After high school, Blair got a job as a grip intern on the movie, "How You Look to Me,"

produced by Bruce Romans.

"I worked on all the equipment around set," he said.

While Blair was filming Romans' movie, he went to the "King Arthur" premiere in Bardstown, where he met Jerry Bruckheimer.

Bruckheimer is a producer whose resume includes such films as "Pirates of the Caribbean" and "Armageddon," as well as the famous television show "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation."

When Blair got to Western he took a job at WBKO-TV, where he met Joe McKinney, a fellow student.

"I saw him at WBKO, but we really got to know each other through our BCOM (broadcasting) classes," McKinney said. "That's where we realized we shared so many of the same interests."

At Western, Blair entered the annual short film festival twice, winning once. At that point, he began to see what direction he wanted his career to go.

"Working at WBKO made me realize I didn't want to do news," Blair said. "There was no room for creativity. I wanted to make films the way I wanted."

In May 2006, Blair and

McKinney began their own production company, Allied Media.

"We named it Allied because there was a big company in Louisville named Axis Entertainment and we thought it would be fun competition, like the allies versus the axis in World War II," Blair said.

Together they have made a name for themselves by advertising in the phone book and doing work for weddings, oil companies and yes, Bruckheimer.

Bruckheimer had Blair and his crew film an employee retreat at his Bloomfield home in November.

These days, Blair's dreams of being a high-profile producer in Hollywood have changed a bit. He said he wants to stay relatively close to home and family, while also building up his company with McKinney.

"We hope to have a couple of branches, maybe one in Louisville or Lexington and one here or in Nashville," Blair said.

Blair said he loves being his own boss and doing what he wants to do. He said he never thought he would own a business while in college.

Reach Heather Ryan
at features@wkuherald.com.

Artist to bring edge, humor to downtown

BY JENNIFER DOOPER
Herald reporter

The Dead Milkmen haven't been buried yet.

Joe Jack Talcum, a former guitarist and occasional vocalist for the Dead Milkmen, will perform tomorrow night at the Capitol Arts Center.

The Dead Milkmen were a top underground punk band in the late 1980s and early 1990s. They are most known for the song "Punk Rock Girl." Other songs include "Instant Club Hit" and "Big Time Operator."

The artist is expected to bring folksy comedy to Bowling Green as he performs his own take on old songs, in addition to recent material.

Student Activities Coordinator Azurdee Garland said she expects a positive turnout for the first show of the Campus Activities Board's concert series of 2007.

"It's a neat way to kick off the semester concert series," she

said. "It's something different to do."

Tickets cost \$5.

Kim Wagner, programming and education director at the arts Center, expects an audience of 100 to 150 people.

The show is a sideshow, which means that both the performer and the audience are on the stage. This set up will allow the audience members to become part of the performance.

"Talcum has a great history, a cult following," she said. "His past with the Dead Milkmen gives him an edge."

Lifelong fan Brandon Harrod is excited about the show.

"He's got his own brand of humor that he brings into the song," Harrod said.

Talcum's signature solo songs include "Honey Jar" and

"Autumn Leaves."

Harrod and his band, Brandon Harrod and the Moustache Men, will open for Talcum along with Save Macaulay the Band.

Matt Pfeffercorn, manager at Great Escape Records, is also anticipating Talcum's performance.

"He breaks away from what they did as a band, but he still has a nice edge to it that the Dead Milkmen had," he said.

Harrod, an intern at the Capitol Arts Center, helped bring Talcum to Bowling Green.

"I'd like to see people come out. There's always great stuff to do, but it's not always easy to find it," Harrod said.

Reach Jennifer Dooper
at news@wkuherald.com.

REAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

these things, so it gives us a chance to meet cast members from other series," Barry said. "Plus we get to see a lot of the country and meet a lot of really interesting people."

Both were confident and casual around the many people they met throughout their visit.

"The more you travel around, the easier it becomes to just approach a lot of strangers," said the 35-year-old Yarbrough, from Los Angeles. "It's nice just going around and socializing, and most colleges are fairly cool."

Espousing compliments for both the state of Kentucky as well as Western's campus, Yarbrough said, "I love it here. The Midwest keeps me alive!"

Though the afternoon event was small, Barry and Yarbrough's appearance at The Brewing Company, a bar on the square downtown, received more attention.

Contacted by the bar in response to their promotional tour, Barry and Yarbrough eagerly jumped at the opportunity to check out the Bowling Green nightlife.

"We're pretty much everyday people that like to party," Barry said, as he fought off a throng of women. "We're really not that special."

Yarbrough, wearing a black and silver T-shirt with his name emblazoned on the back, would disagree, he said.

"I really wouldn't say that we're that different since the show, but it has definitely had an impact on our lives. No matter where I go, I get recognized," Yarbrough said.

Despite their reputations, both seemed down to earth and accustomed to their careers as college-touring celebrities.

"When it comes down to it, they're just really laid-back guys," said Lindsay Locasto, a junior from Evansville, Ind. "They're just here to party."

Reach Michael Hall
at features@wkuherald.com.



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Artist hones skill to ‘T’

By **STEPHANIE KEENE**
Herald reporter

When Nashville senior Sam Braden, 22, painted his first picture — a portrait of R&B singer Aaliyah — in high school, he didn’t realize that one day painting would lead to his career aspirations.

Braden has always been interested in art and realized he had the talent to become an artist at the age of seven. Now Braden has broadened his art to paintings exhibited in galleries to T-shirts.

After graduating from Crayolas and Magic Markers, Braden realized his ideal medium was acrylic paint. Through the years, Braden has painted about 50 paintings on canvas.

Canvas paintings aren’t his only love, though. About three years ago, Braden saw a painted shirt in a clothing store and real-

ized he could do the same thing for a much cheaper price.

“Everything you see around you is art,” he said.

With an eye for life’s aesthetics, Braden began painting shirts that conveyed his emotions and the people and culture he saw around him.

Several of his paintings have been displayed at museums and art exhibits in the Nashville and Bowling Green community. His work was shown at the Parthenon Museum in Centennial Park in Nashville, he said.

He one day hopes to have his work displayed in his own art gallery and his own clothing line, which he plans to title Ananta—a Hindu word he found in a book which means “infinite, without end.”

Currently he calls the shirts he paints BLAK—Built to Last in All Conditions.

Braden’s girlfriend, Bowling Green junior Pauletha Butts, feels his talent and artistic ability will take him very far in life.

When she first met Braden, he wore a shirt he painted of iconic rapper Notorious BIG, and she was amazed.

“I’ve never seen or met an artist before,” Butts said. “To watch and see him put forth the effort to create is amazing. It’s something I could never do.”

Dubbed an urban artist by several Western students, Braden has steadily gained a supporting fan base.

A close friend, Nashville senior Maurice Matthews, considers Braden one of the best artists out there.

“Sam’s art is very diverse in every aspect,” he said. “It can relate to everybody. It relates to the culture manifested at that time.”



Kellie Manier/Herald

Nashville senior Sam Braden started painting when he was 17 years old and said he gets ideas from history, because he is a history minor, as well as music and movies. “I’m not the most creative person, but I know I’m talented,” Braden said.

Braden has become known by students for his shirts with paintings of hip hop celebrities, and urban culture reflections.

“I like to paint things that represent things, but with a hidden message,” Braden said. “I like to paint things people don’t always portray as positive.”

Reach Stephanie Keene at features@wkuherald.com.

Campus government

University Senate to discuss plus/minus grading system

By **SUSIE LAUN**
Herald reporter

While students are just beginning to open their books, some University Senate members are already working on starting the semester off right.

Assistant History Professor Andrew McMichael said the academic quality committee will work on plus/minus grading this semester.

The senate will discuss plus/minus grading in February and maybe March to see what it wants to recommend to the university.

Plus/minus grading has been used in a pilot program since fall 2004, according to Herald archives.

Western officials will decide what step they’ll take next.

McMichael said the initial numbers from plus/minus grading indicate there’s no effect on student’s grades, which he said is a good thing.

“Plus/minus grading helps students who would be on the high end,” he said.

He said results are mixed for students on the low end, but he has faith in Western students.

“It will encourage students to work harder,” he said.

McMichael said the committee will also start initial work to revise the student code of conduct to make it more clear.

Many of the items the senate wanted to accomplish are

already moving forward, Vice Chair John All said.

Those things include plus/minus grading, retirement, parking and trying to improve academic quality.

“We’re a good university, but we can always improve,” All said.

Faculty Regent Robert Dietle said he’s not a leading member of the senate but he’ll spend his semester listening and finding out what’s important to his fellow faculty members.

— **John All**
Vice Chair

Reach Susie Laun at news@wkuherald.com.



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Greg Barnette/Herald

(Left to right) **Kris Andrew, 10, Anton Beiting, 13, Kevin Andrew, 13,** Carli Hughes, 10, and Kateri Beiting, 9, of Bowling Green, and their robot “Bob” are getting ready to compete at the FIRST LEGO League Kentucky State Competition. Twenty-nine teams will compete in robot building and skills competition. The event will take place Saturday at Diddle Arena.

Western to host LEGO competition

By Elizabeth Worster
Herald reporter

On a wooden platform built by the hands of six children, Bob performs tasks that have been programmed into him.

These tasks include sending a buckyball to a container to help stop cancer.

Bob gets a workout from his owners, who constructed him mostly out of black and gray LEGOs.

Children from across Kentucky will be at Western on Saturday for the FIRST LEGO League Kentucky State Competition.

FIRST, For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology, cosponsors the competition with LEGO.

The LEGO robot competition will take place between 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. in Diddle Arena and will include judging for performance and research. The theme for the competition is nanotechnology.

The FIRST LEGO League started in the United States in 1998 and has been in Kentucky for four years. It originally took place in Covington at Northern Kentucky University. Karla Andrew, Western’s Water Resource Center project specialist, took over the organization at Western.

Andrew started coaching teams in the competition and eventually gave the job to her husband, Keith Andrew, head of the department of physics and astronomy. She then took over the entire event in her spare time.

Keith Andrew coaches six children, all but one from Bowling Green. The team usually starts the season in August.

Sunday practice takes place in the Andrews’ garage and typically lasts two to four hours.

During that time, the children must build a robot from a kit they receive and learn how to program it.

“I didn’t think they could program, but gee, they really picked it up,” Keith Andrew said. “They picked it up right away.”

They must also learn about the competition’s theme each year, while doing online searches and writing a research paper.

This year, Keith Andrew and his team decided to perform a play to present their research findings.

The FIRST LEGO League is designed to teach children how to work together as a team, challenge them to work through complicated tasks with their robots and engage them in the world of technology.

The program is also designed to teach children about current issues.

With this year’s theme, nanotechnology, Andrew’s team has learned how nanotechnology can help cancer patients.

The program also offers social skills and friendships. The Andrews’ son, 13-year-old Kevin, said he’s excited about working with the technology and being with his friends.

The kids were calm before working on the project, but became animated when they began.

Karla Andrew described the team as “squirrels on caffeine,” because they were excited about their project.

But Saturday’s event won’t be judged on how excited teams are. The judging will be based on team work, technical skills and the research presented.

There will be 29 teams from Kentucky competing. The winner from the state will go to Atlanta to compete in international competition against 38 other countries.

This year, teams from six states have the opportunity to go to Norway to compete in an open competition. The winner of Kentucky’s competition can choose to go to Norway.

Reach Elizabeth Worster
at news@wkuherald.com.



Jordan Pendley/Herald

Louisville senior Erin Bruenderman is a nursing major and tries to maintain good health with daily runs at the Preston Center. “If it’s nice enough outside, I run at Preston Miller Park,” Bruenderman said.

New sidewalks in the works

By Nina Bosken and
Elizabeth Worster
Herald reporters

In the 1970s, tie-dyed shirts and bell-bottomed jeans were the trends, along with driving everywhere.

Hence, sidewalk construction became nearly nonexistent, City Manager Kevin DeFebbo said.

Now, walking is becoming popular again.

There is a demand for more sidewalks in Bowling Green, shown through focus groups and surveys, DeFebbo said.

The city commission is looking into some options to satisfy this need, DeFebbo said.

Bowling Green needs 68 miles of sidewalk, which would cost \$29 million, DeFebbo said.

The city is trying to find ways to get money to complete the project, including grants from the

state, city reserves and bidding.

The 2005-06 commission committed money for sidewalk construction.

City Commissioner Brian “Slim” Nash said the city now has \$200,000 toward the project, but that’s not enough to cover the cost.

Public Works Director Emmett L. Wood Jr. said the project still includes plans to build new sidewalks and fix old sidewalks, and Public Works Department employees have to make sure most major sidewalks are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Wood is working on a proposal to present to the city commission this spring.

The department will continue presenting the proposal until it is acceptable.

Wood said the department will

wait to present the project again when the public is able to give input.

The city has been working on the project for less than a year.

Public Works Inspector Joseph Webb went onto the streets with a graphical information system that locates problematic sidewalks.

The city will address and fix the problem areas.

Bowling Green has 107 miles of sidewalks, not including the sidewalks on Western’s campus.

Wood said he doesn’t expect the project being completed in his lifetime. It depends on the amount of money the city can get and what needs to be accomplished.

“You have one problem and fixed it; you have helped overall,” Webb said.

Reach the reporters
at news@wkuherald.com.

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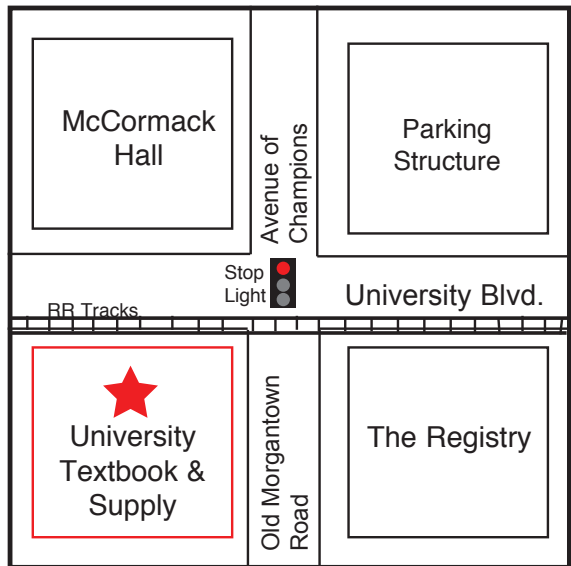


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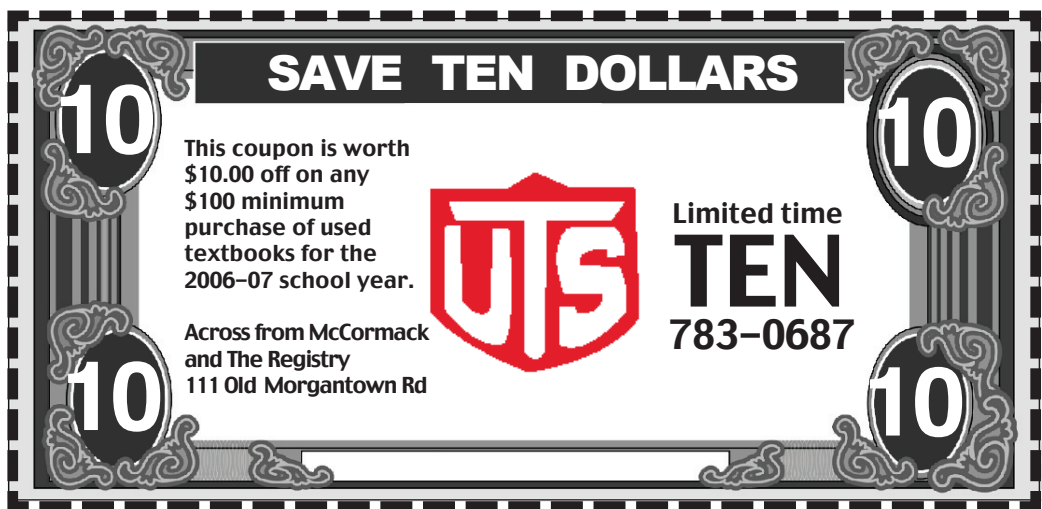
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